WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Decline in exports

*24. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's exports have shown a perceptible decline during the last one year; if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps have been taken to improve the balance of trade position?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) No Sir. According to preliminary figures, exports during April-September 1985-86 were Rs. 5017.63 crores compared to Rs. 5054.26 crores in the corresponding period in the previous year thus being only 0.7 per cent lower. However, excluding crude oil, the exports were Rs. 4882.48 crores compared to Rs. 4537.93 crores in the corresponding period in the previous year, thus showing an increase of about 7.6 per cent.

(b) A series of policy measures have been taken in order to increase the supply of commodities and manufactured goods for exports, making our exports competitive and for their marketing and promotion. Simultaneously, efforts are also being made to step up our indegenous production of importables during the Seventh Five Year Plan period, particularly of bulk commodities.

Study of Abid Hussain Committee Report on trade policies

*27. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inter-Ministerial Committee has considered the Abid Hussain Committee report on trade policies and submitted its recommendations; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the recommendations made in this regard and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) The Report of the Committee on Trade Policies, headed by Shri Abid Hussain, has been considered by the Government. Copies of the Report were made available on 28.8.1985 to the Parliament Library.

The Report contains many broad conceptual recommendations, general recommendations which need elaboration before being implemented and operation recommendations. These have mostly been accepted. Several recommendations have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented. Some recommendations are being further examined.

आन्तरिक पर्यटन को बढ़ावा

*28. **श्री राधा किशन मालवीय :** क्या संसदीय कार्य और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम ने कोई योजना प्रारम्भ की है जिसके अधीन सातवीं योजना अवधि के दौरान आन्तरिक पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए चालीस यात्री निवासों का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव है ;

(ख) क्या प्रत्येक राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्र में ऐसे यात्री निवासों का निर्माण किया जाएगा ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो मध्य प्रदेश के उन स्थानों के नाम क्या-क्या हैं जहां पर इस प्रकार के यात्री निवासों का निर्माण किये जाने का प्रस्ताव है और उसका ब्योरा क्या है ?

संसदीय कार्य और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री एच० के० एल० भगत) : (क) और (ख) : सातवीं योजनावधि के दौरान पर्यटन विभाग

ने निम्न/मध्य आय वर्ग के पर्यटकों को आवास जुटाने के लिए यात्री निवास का निर्माण करने की एक स्कीम प्रारम्भ की है। प्रथम चरण में प्रत्येक राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्र में कम से कम एक यात्री निवास का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव है। यह एक संयुक्त उद्यम स्कीम है जिसके अन्तर्गत राज्य सरकारें विकसित भूखण्ड और अन्य अनुषंगी सुविधायें जुटाएंगी और केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग निर्माण संबंधी लागत वहन करेगा।

(ग) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने यात्री निवास का निर्माण करने के लिए ग्वालियर का अभिनिर्धारण किया है। इस स्कीम को राज्य सरकार द्वारा अपेक्षित औपचारिकताओं को पूरा कर लेने की शर्त पर निर्भर रहते हुए लगभग 36.00 लाख रू० की अनुमानित लागत पर अनुमोदन प्रदान कर दिया गया है।

Textile Ministry's proposal for amendment of the Industrial Disputes Act

*29. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Textiles has proposed an amendment to the Industrial Disputes Act to facilitate the closure of some of the sick mills under the National Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the details of the amendments and what are the names of the mills proposed to be closed down; and

(c) what is Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Problems faced by 100 per cent export-oriented units in the country

*30. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundred per cent export-oriented units set up in the country are facing some problems and are opting out of the scheme one by one;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what efforts have been made to solve their problems?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Some units approved under the 100 per cent Export Oriented Units (EOU) Scheme have represented about the problems faced by them. Very few units have however sought permission to opt out of the scheme and a much larger number of new proposals for approval under the scheme are also being received.

(b) The grounds stated for opting out are generally break-down of collaboration arrangements for buy-back, un-competitiveness of product in the international market, inadequate incentives in relation to units outside the scheme, etc.

(c) Some of the important measures taken in the recent past are as under:

(1) Reduction in Customs bonding charges.

(2) Permission to sell 25 per cent of production indigenously consistent with Import Policy.

(3) Permission to dispose of 5 per cent rejects indigenously.

(4) Permission to transfer products to other 100 per cent EOUs or units in Export Processing Zones.